

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 05550 041557Z

43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE PRIORITY 4357

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UNCLAS CAIRO 5550

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SUBJECT: SUEZ CANAL REOPENING CEREMONIES

1. CAIRO PRESS JUNE 4 PROVIDED FOLLOWING INFORMATION
CONCERNING SUEZ CANAL REOPENING CEREMONIES SCHEDULED
IN PORT SAID AND ISMAILIA JUNE 5.

2. THE CEREMONY WILL START WITH A RECITAL FROM THE
HOLY KORAN. DEP PRIMIN/MINWAR GENERAL GAMASSY WILL
THEN DELIVER SPEECH AND PRESENT DOCUMENT AUTHORIZING
REOPENING OF CANAL TO PRESIDENT SADAT TO SIGN.
DOCUMENT WILL BE BROADCAST TO WHOLE WORLD IN FOUR
LANGUAGES AND WILL THEN BE HANDED BY GAMASSY TO
THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SUEZ CANAL AUTHORITY ENGINEER
MASHHOUR AHMAD MAHSHOUR AS AUTHORITY FOR RETURN OF
CANAL TO CIVIL ADMINISTRATION AFTER
BEING UNDER ARMY SUPERVISION FOR
EIGHT YEARS. PRESIDENT SADAT WILL ALSO SPEAK ON
WORLD-WIDE BROADCAST.

3. CEREMONY WILL BE HELD BY ARMED FORCES AT A BIG
MARQUEE FACING GOVERNORATE BUILDING IN PORT SAID
AND WILL BE ATTENDED BY VICE PRES HOSNI MUBARAK, HIGH
RANKING GOE OFFICIALS, ARAB DEFENSE MINISTERS,
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PAGE 02 CAIRO 05550 041557Z

FOREIGN AMBASSADORS, MILITARY ATTACHES, COMMANDERS

OF THE ARAB ARMED FORCES, REPRESENTATIVES OF MARI-
TIME COMPANIES AND SOME MEMBERS OF THE UNITED
NATIONS EMERGENCY FORCES. (SPECIAL GUESTS
WILL DEPART CAIRO 0430 LOCAL TIME.)

4. ONCE REOPENING CEREMONY IS OVER AND CIVIL
ADMINISTRATION TAKES OVER, NAVAL PROCESSION WILL
TAKE PLACE WITH EGPSTIAN DESTROYER "OCTOBER 6"
LEADING THE WAY. ON BOARD WILL BE PRES SADAT,
VICE PRES, CROWN PRINCE OF IRAN, PRIMIN, MIN OF
WAR, CHAIRMAN OF SUEZ CANAL AUTHORITY, AND
COMMANDERS OF THE ARMED FORCES CORPS WHICH
PARTICIPATED IN THE OCTOBER WAR AS WELL AS A NUMBER
OF WAR HEROES. AMBASSADORS AND OTHER INVITED
GUESTS WILL EMBARK ON THE PASSENGER SHIP, "SYRIA".
NAVAL PROCESSION WILL PROCEED THROUGH CANAL TO
ISMAILIA AT APPROX 1100 ARRIVING AFTER SIX HOUR
VOYAGE. SQUADRONS OF EGYPTIAN FIGHTERS WILL FLY
OVER PROCESSION.

5. GOVERNOR OF ISMAILIA WILL MEET WILL MEET SADAT ON ARRIVAL AND
PRESENT HIM WITH A SILVER PLATE AND GOLDEN
KLAN AS GIFT FROM INHABITANTS OF ISMAILIA. GOVERNOR
WILL THEN PRESENT IANIAN CROWN PRICE WITH KEY
TO CITY.

6. SADAT AND THE PARTY ACCOMPANYING HIM WILL THEN GO
TO THE SUEZ CANAL AUTHORITY BUILDING WHERE HE
WILL UNVEIL MEMORIAL AT ENTRANCE. PRES
WILL SPEND THE NIGHT AT ISMAILIA, AND IN THE MORNING
(JUNE 6) HE WILL VISIT THE MARTYRS' GRAVES
AND THEN LEAVE BY AIR FOR SUEZ.
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